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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Jun MAKINO

Serial No.: 10/049,388

Filed: May 28, 2002

For: A SWITCH CIRCUIT

Date: December 3, 2002

Group Art Unit:

Examiner: ---

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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SUBMISSION

Sir:

Applicant submits herewith the International Preliminary
Examination Report for the above identified application.

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Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.
20231, on December 3, 2002:

Robert C. Faber

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Robert C. Faber

Signature

December 3, 2002

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Faber

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Jun MAKINO

Serial No.: 10/049,388

Filed: May 28, 2002

For: A SWITCH CIRCUIT

New York, New York

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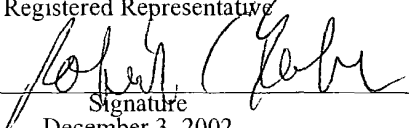
SUBMISSION

Sir:

Submitted herewith is an English language Abstract for EP 0 730 349, a European reference cited in relation to the above-identified application. The European reference was already disclosed in the Information Disclosure Statement on October 15, 2002, but no English language translation was submitted.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Asst. Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 3, 2002:


Robert C. Faber

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative


Signature
December 3, 2002

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference FP1167	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/SG 99/00084	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 13 August 1999 (13.08.1999)	Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC⁷: H02J 13/00, 9/00, H02H 1/00		
Applicant Majeel Laboratories Pte Ltd. et al.		

1.	This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examination Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of <u> 4 </u> sheets, including this cover sheet. <input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.
3.	This report contains indications relating to the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the opinion II. <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III. <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV. <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI. <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII. <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand <div style="text-align: center;">28.02.2001</div>	Date of completion of this report <div style="text-align: center;">23 September 2002 (23.09.2002)</div>
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AT Austrian Patent Office Kohlmarkt 8-10	Authorized officer <div style="text-align: center;">MEHLMAUER A.</div>

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SG 99/00084

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

☒ the international application as originally filed☐ the description:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☐ the claims:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☐ the drawings:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☐ the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____.

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).☒ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in printed form.☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:☐ the description, pages _____.☐ the claims, Nos. _____.☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____.5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as „originally filed“ and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/SG 99/00084**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-14	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-14	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-14	YES
	Claims		NO

Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

This Examination Report is based on the Written Opinion of 2 March 2001 (02.03.2001). Though the International Examining Authority raised objections regarding the clarity of claims 2 and 3 respectively the back reference of claim 14 the Applicant has submitted no response to said Written Opinion within the given time limit.

The subject matter of claim 1 concerns a switch circuit for controlling the supply from an electrical power source to a load. The switch circuit comprises transistors and a momentary switch. The dependent claims 2 – 14 concern advantageous features of the invention.

The documents cited in the search report address the subject-matter of the present application insofar as the documents describe power supply switching circuits with electronic switches. Though said documents also disclose combinations of electronic switches with a mechanical switch, none of the cited documents is able to anticipate the specific performance of the switch circuit as offered in the present application. Thus, the circuits of the cited documents define a state of the art not questioning the patentability of the present subject-matter.

Industrial applicability for a switch circuit is obviously established.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/SG 99/00084

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

1. Claims 2 and 3 do not meet the requirement of clarity because it is not defined which one of the two transistors (Q2 or Q3) of the electronic switching device is a thyristor device (PCT Article 6).
2. Dependent claim 14 is not referred back to the previous claims in the most practical way possible. The arrangement of dependent claims must be one which enables the association of related claims to be readily determined (PCT Rule 6.4(c)).
3. The features of all the claims should be followed by reference signs in parentheses (PCT Rule 6.2(b)).